

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 18 January 2001 (18.01.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 01/03667 A1

(51) International Patent Classification?: A61K 9/113, 47/48, 48/00, 9/16

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/06460

(22) International Filing Date: 7 July 2000 (07.07,2000)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 99113251.5

8 July 1999 (08.07.1999)

20 January 2000 (20.01.2000)

00101030.5 (71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: HILGERS, Arnold [DE/DE]; Golzheimer Platz 5, 40476 Dilsseldorf (DB).

(74) Agents: KÖNIG, Reimar et al.; Lohengrinstrasse 11, D-40549 Düsseldorf (DE).

DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, IP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

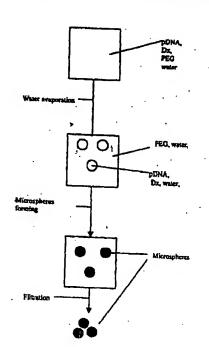
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments.

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, ance Notes on Godes and Abbreviations appearing at the begin-: For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, inling of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a composition and method for delivery of biological material, especially nucleic acids into target cells and into the nucleus.

rete ı.e Ü '_ 4 إإإ

WO 01/03667

From the INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY KÕNIG, Reimar; PALGEN, Peter; SCHUHMACHER, Horst, KLUIN, SCHUHMAUFILL, Jörg-Eden; KöNIG, Gregor 11 Frist: NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY 40549 Düsseldorf **EXAMINATION REPORT** EINGEGANGEN Eili **ALLEMAGNE** (PCT Rule 71.1) Rûc 12. Nov. 2001 Konig Palgen Schumacher Kluin Patenlanwälte Date of malling V (day/month/year) 09.11.2001 Applicant's or agent's file reference 43 709 K IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION International application No. International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year) PCT/EP00/06460 07/07/2000 08/07/1999 Applicant HILGERS, Amold

- 1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
- 2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the international Bureau for communication
- 3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/

Authorized officer

European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d

Hutterer, G

Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465

Tel.+49 89 2399-8066



PA NT COOPERATION TREAT

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark
Office, PCT
2011 South Clark Place Room
CP2/5C24
Arlington, VA 22202
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/mo	onth/year)
13 March 2001	(13.03.01

International application No. PCT/EP00/06460

International filing date (day/month/year) 07 July 2000 (07.07.00)

Applicant

HILGERS, Arnold

Applicant's or	agent's file	reference
----------------	--------------	-----------

43 305K

Priority date (day/month/year) 08 July 1999 (08.07.99)

١.	The designated Office	is hereby notifie	d of its e	lection m	ade:

 $oxed{\mathsf{X}}$ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

27 January 2001 (27.01.01)

in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election

X wa

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Authorized officer

Juan Cruz

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



PCT

AUG 2 9 2002

Translation ON INTE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT TECH CENTER 1600/2900

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	
Anm.99/003WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION SeeNotificationofTransmittalofInternational Prelimina Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/EP00/05878	International filing date (day/month/year) 26 June 2000 (26.06.00) Priority date (day/month/year) 29 June 1999 (20.06.00)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or r C12N 15/12, C07K 14/47, C12N C12Q 1/68	29 June 1999 (29.06.99) ational classification and IPC 15/63, A01K 67/027, C07K 16/18, G01N 33/68, A61K 48/00, 38/17, 39/395,
Applicant	MULTIGENE BIOTECH GMBH
This international preliminary exami- and is transmitted to the applicant acc	nation report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority cording to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
This report is also accompanie amended and are the basis for	d by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule dministrative Instructions under the PCT).
These annexes consist of a tota	
3. This report contains indications relating	g to the following items:
I Basis of the report	
II Priority	
III Non-establishment of o	pinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV Lack of unity of invent	on
V Reasoned statement un citations and explanation	der Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
VI Certain documents cited	
VII Certain defects in the in	ernational application
	the international application
Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
22 January 2001 (22.01.01	
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
^F acsimile No.	Telephone No.
Orm PCT/IDE A (400 /	- Provide Tro.

international application No.

PCT/EP00/05878

I Posi	s of the e		PC1/EP00/05878
	s of the r		
1. With		to the elements of the international application:*	
ᅵ닏	the int	ernational application as originally filed	
	the des	scription:	
	pages	1-17	
	pages		, as originally filed,
	pages	, filed with the letter	of
\boxtimes	the cla	ims:	
	pages	1-22	
	pages	, as amended (tog	, as originally filed
	pages	, as allowed (tog	
	pages	, filed with the letter of	, fried with the demand
\bowtie	the dray		
	pages	1/7-7/7	
	pages		, as originally filed
	pages	, filed with the letter of	, filed with the demand
X 11	he seaver	nce listing part of the description:	
<u> </u>	pages	-	
	pages		, as originally filed
	pages		, filed with the demand
		the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.	
	the language the language or 55.3).	were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language uage of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (undeuage of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). uage of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminational prelimina	which is: r Rule 23.1(b)). hary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/
	contained filed toge furnished	o any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the intermination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing: d in the international application in written form. ether with the international application in computer readable form. I subsequently to this Authority in written form. I subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.	mational application, the international
	The state	ement that the subsequently furnished to the subsequently furnished.	
		ement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does remained application as filed has been furnished. The ment that the information recorded in computer readable form is identicated.	
b	een furn	ished.	at to the written sequence listing has
	the the	dments have resulted in the cancellation of: description, pages claims, Nos	
L	the	drawings, sheets/fig	
		has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**	
ana 70.1.	<i>1)</i> .	ets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invi- "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do n	ioi contain amendments (Rule 70.16
any repla	acement s	sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item I and ann	exed to this report.
			1

crnational application No.

PCT/EP00/05878

1. The	n-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be strially applicable have not been examined in respect of:
	the entire international application.
	the entire international application.
	claims Nos16, 17(f), and 18-22
becau	ise:
\boxtimes	the said international application, or the said claims Nos
	relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (specify):
	ee supplemental sheet
_	
	the description, claims or drawings (indicate particular elements below) or said claims Nosare so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (specify):
	(specify):
C tl	ne claims, or said claims Nos
L b	V the decomposition of the second sec
No.	the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
	o international search report has been established for said claims Nos
Meaning	o international search report has been established for said claims Nos
A meaning sequence	gful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid
th	gful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions: e written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.
th	gful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid

Interior on all application No. PCT/EP 00/05878

Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: III.

1. Claims 18-22 relate to a subject matter that, in the opinion of this Examining Authority, falls under PCT Rule 67.1(iv). Therefore, a report will not be made about the industrial applicability of the subject matter of these claims (PCT Article 34(4)(a)(i)).

In tional application No.
PCT/EP 00/05878

V.	V .	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applic citations and explanations supporting such statement	ability
7 .	•	citations and explanations supporting such statement	al

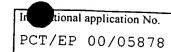
1.	Statement			
	Novelty (N)	Claims	5-7, 12-15, 17-22	YES
		Claims	1-4, 8-11	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
		Claims	1-15, 17-22	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-15, 17	YES
		Claims		— NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

- D1 = DATABASE EMBL; Entry AF151813, 1 June 1999;
 LIN W.-C.: "Homo sapiens CGI-55 protein mRNA,
 complete cds."
- The present application relates to nucleic acid for two interactors (FANCIP2 and FANCIP3) of the Fanconi anemia protein of the complementation group A, corresponding proteins, analogues, fragments and applications thereof.
- 1.1 Document D1, which is the closest prior art discloses a nucleic acid molecule that shows 99% homology to 800 nucleotides from the nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 1. The corresponding protein shows 99.5% homology to the aminoacid sequence shown in Figure 2. The subject mater of Claims 1-4 and 8-11 is thus not novel (PCT Article 33(2)).
- Dependent Claims 5-7, 12-15 and 17-22 are novel and satisfy the requirements of PCT Article 33(2).

 Nonetheless, those claims only relate to common



embodiments such as vectors, transformed cells, antibodies, pharmaceutical compounds or processes for identifying effectors and appear to contain no additional features that, combined with the features of any claim to which Claims 5-7, 12-15 and 17-22 refer, could lead to a subject matter involving an inventive step. The subject matter of Claims 5-7, 12-15 and 17-22 thus does not involve an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3).

Internal application No.
PCT/EP 00/05878

VII.	Certain	defects	in	the	international	application
------	---------	---------	----	-----	---------------	-------------

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

1. Claims 1 and 9 contain references to the drawings. According to PCT Rule 6.2(a), claims can only contain references if absolutely necessary, which is not the present case.

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

- 1. The expressions "segment" and "fragment" used in Claims 1, 3, 5 and 13 are vague and unclear and leave the reader uncertain as to the meaning of the related technical features. Consequently, the definition of the subject matter of these claims is unclear (PCT Article 6).
- The applicant should note that the expression "preferably" in Claim 2 does not delimit the scope of protection of the claims, i.e., that which follows such a feature is considered to be entirely optional.
- 3. The term "modified" used in Claims 4 and 11 is vague and unclear and leaves the reader uncertain as to the meaning of the related technical features.

 Consequently, the definition of the subject matter of these claims is unclear (PCT Article 6).
- 4. The term "analogue" used in Claims 4 and 11 is vague and unclear and leaves the reader uncertain as to the meaning of the related technical features. Consequently, the definition of the subject matter of these claims is unclear (PCT Article 6).
- 5. Claim 7 does not satisfy the requirements of PCT Article 6 because the subject matter of the claim is not clearly defined. This claim attempts to define its subject matter in terms of the result to be achieved ("the corresponding natural gene of which was selectively destroyed") and in doing so merely



VIII. Certain observations on the international application	
states the problem addressed. To	remedy this defect
the technical features necessary	for achieving that

result should be included in the claim.

PCT

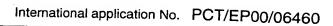
REC'D 13 NOV 2001

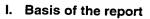
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORTET

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applica	nt's or a	agent's file reference	T	
43 709			FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
,		pplication No.	International filing date (day/month)	/year) Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/E	P00/0	06460	07/07/2000	08/07/1999
A61K9	/113	atent Classification (IPC) or nat	tional classification and IPC	
Applican HILGE		urnold		
1. This	s inter I is tra	national preliminary examir nsmitted to the applicant ac	nation report has been prepared scording to Article 36.	by this International Preliminary Examining Authority
2. This	s REP	ORT consists of a total of	5 sheets, including this cover she	eet.
⊠		amondod and are the basis	by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the s for this report and/or sheets cor of the Administrative Instruction	description, claims and/or drawings which have ntaining rectifications made before this Authority ns under the PCT).
The	se anr	nexes consist of a total of 5	sheets.	
3. This	report	t contains indications relatir	ng to the following items:	
1	\boxtimes	Basis of the report		
11		Priority		•
111		Non-establishment of opin	nion with regard to novelty, inven	ntive step and industrial applicability
IV		Lack of unity of invention		
V	⊠ –	and explanations	er Article 35(2) with regard to noves suporting such statement	velty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
VI		Certain documents cited		
VII	62	Certain defects in the inte		
VIII	<u> </u>	Certain observations on the	ne international application	
Date of sub	missio	n of the demand	Date of com	pletion of this report
27/01/20	01		09.11.2001	•
Name and	ame and mailing address of the international			officer
	European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d			n, S
	⊦ax: -	+49 89 2399 - 4465 	Telephone N	lo. +49 89 2399 7520



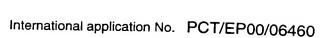




	the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)): Description, pages:						
	1	-23	as originally filed				
	C	laims, No.:					
	1	-36	with telefax of	24/10/2001			
	D	rawings, sheets:					
	1		as received on	10/10/2000	with letter of	09/10/2000	
 With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. 							
	Th	ese elements were a	vailable or furnished to this Auth	ority in the fo	llowing language: , \	which is:	
		the language of a t	ranslation furnished for the purp	oses of the in	ternational search (un	ider Bule 22 4/h))	
		the language of pul	blication of the international app	lication (unde	r Bule 48.3(b))	idei Aule 23.1(b)).	
		the language of a tr 55.2 and/or 55.3).	ranslation furnished for the purp	oses of intern	ational preliminary ex	amination (under Rule	
3.	Wit	th regard to any nucl ernational preliminary	eotide and/or amino acid seque examination was carried out on	ence disclose the basis of t	ed in the international the sequence listing:	application, the	
		contained in the inte	ernational application in written fo	orm.			
			ne international application in co		ble form.		
		furnished subseque	ntly to this Authority in written fo	rm.			
		furnished subseque	ntly to this Authority in computer	readable for	m.		
		The statement that the international app	the subsequently furnished writte Dication as filed has been furnisl	en sequence ned.	listing does not go bey		
		The statement that t listing has been furn	he information recorded in compished.	outer readable	e form is identical to th	e written sequence	
4.	The	amendments have re	esulted in the cancellation of:				
		the description,	pages:				
		the claims,	Nos.:				

1. With regard to the elements of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to





V.	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement			
6.	Addi	Additional observations, if necessary:		
		(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed report.)		
5.		This report has been considered to go bey	his report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been onsidered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):	
		the drawings,	sheets:	

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes:

Claims 6,15-19,22,23,25-33

No:

Claims 1-5,7-14,20,21,24,34-36

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims

No:

Claims 1-36

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes:

Claims 1-36

No:

Claims

2. Citations and explanations see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made: see separate sheet



International application No. PCT/EP00/06460

EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following documents:

US-A-5 849 884 (WOISZWILLO ET AL.) 15 December 1998 (1998-12-15)

EP-A-0 842 657 (OCTOPLUS B.V.) 20 May 1998 (1998-05-20) D2:

EP-A-0 213 303 (MAGNUS ET AL.) 11 March 1987 (1987-03-11) D3:

NOVELTY

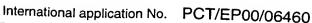
The composition as defined in claim 1 is a two-phase aqueous polymer system comprising (i) biological material, (ii) at least two compounds leading to spontaneous formation of a dispersed phase and (iii) microparticles in the dispersed phase. Said composition is not novel (Art. 33(2)PCT) since D1 (column 3, line 21 - column 4, line 5; examples), D2 (page 3, lines 29-54; page 4, lines 14-48; examples) and D3 (whole document) disclose compositions falling within the definition of claim 1.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is partially defined as a product-by-process. Whether the formation of the dispersed phase however occured spontaneous or not is of little significance in the present composition claim, since this can not be checked. Aqueous solutions of two incompatible polymers will spontaneously separate into a dispersed and continuous phase when a critical polymer concentration has been reached e.g. by evaporation of water. On the other hand, when two incompatible polymer solutions are mixed in such a way that the concentration in the final mixture is already above the critical concentration (cf. D1, D2 and D3), mechanical energy (e.g. vortexing, stirring) should be put into the system in order to get a finely dispersed phase. This mechanical energy is in fact implicitely provided when mixing both solutions. The resulting two-phase compositions however cannot be distinguished from spontaneously formed two-phase compositions, i.e. starting from a one-phase solution containing both polymers.

Although D1 teaches the use of conventional emulsification means, like stirring, vortexing and sonication, spontaneous formation of a dispersed phase is not excluded: the formation of microparticles can also be observed just by heating one-phase aqueous solutions of incompatible polymers, e.g. example 14.

In view of D1-D3 dependent claims 2-5, 7-14, 20-21 and 24 as well as independent claim 34 do not appear to contain any additional subject-matter which meets the novelty requirement of the PCT (Art. 33(2)).

Refering to the above raised novelty objection concerning the composition (cf. claim 1) leading to microparticles, the subject-matter of claims 35-36 cannot be novel as well.



EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

INVENTIVE STEP

Claims 25-33 define a method for preparation of microparticles. Said method meets the novelty requirement of the PCT. However, in view of document D1-D3, the claimed method lacks an inventive step (Art. 33(3) PCT).

The method for preparing microparticles in D3 is similar to the method proposed in the present application, the only difference being the fact that in D3 the two-polymer system is emulsified by mechanical means (stirring), since from the start the two incompatible polymers are mixed in a concentration which does not allow the formation of a solution anymore, i.e. a dispersed phase is formed from the beginning, whereafter the emulsion is further concentrated by removing water in order to make the dispersed phase (liquid droplets) turn into solid microparticles. The removing of water can be performed by evaporation (D3: column 3, lines 33-42). Compared to D1-D3, the method of the present application starts from a one-phase solution of two polymers, which is further concentrated using evaporation, in order to obtain a phase separation (formation of a dispersed phase) followed by the formation of microparticles. The concentration step leading to the phase separation is superfluous in D1-D3 since at the time of mixing the polymers are already present in a concentration sufficiently high to cause phase separation. The introduction of such an additional concentration step however is not regarded as involving an inventive step since it is obvious to a man skilled in the art.

According to the general teaching of prior art documents D1-D3, the subject-matter as defined in the present claims 1-36 does not appear to contain any features which may meet the requirements of the PCT with regard to inventive step (Art. 33(3)).

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

The subject-matter of claims 1-36 meets the requirements of Art.33(4) PCT.

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

Claims 15-16, 20, 24, 26-33:

The subject-matter of said claims is not disclosed in the description.

Description (pages 11-12)

For the detailed disclosure of the "invention", references are made to "prior art" documents (cf. Reference 10, 11, 12). This is somewhat confusing. Remark: on page 12 (line 3) the "Ref.11" should probably read "Ref. 12".

KÖNIG · PALGEN · SCHUMACHER · KLUIN



DÜSSELDORF · ESSEN

PATENTANWÄLTE

PCT/EP00/06460

24. October 2001 43 709 K

"Delivery system for biological material"

Claims:

 A composition to produce particles for delivery of biological material into a target cell comprising:

biological material,

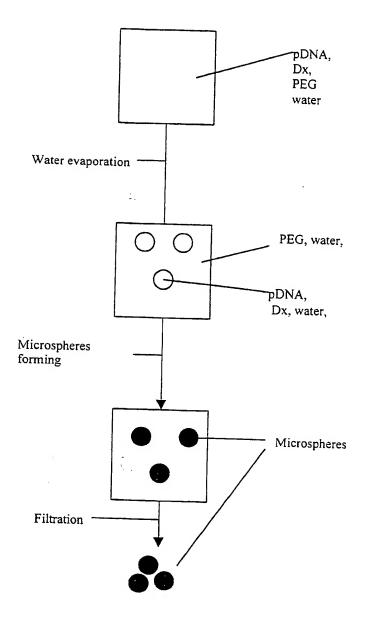
- a preparation of an aqueous polymer system on the basis of a mixture with at least two compounds being incompatible in aqueous solutions, said compounds being present in a concentration in water that leads to the spontaneous formation of a dispersed phase by one of said compounds, said dispersed phase including microparticles in said aqueous solution.
- 2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the mixture is a water mixture.
- 3. A composition according to claims 1 or 2, wherein first and second compounds are carbohydrate-based polymers or derivatives thereof.
- A composition according to claims 1 or 2, wherein first compound is a carbohydrate-based polymer or derivative thereof and second compound is a polyaliphatic alcohol or derivative thereof.
- 5. A composition according to one of the claims 1 to 4, wherein the carbohy-drate-based polymer is dextran, or dextrin, or a methylcellulose based polymer, or a carboxymethyl cellulose-based polymer, or polydextrose, or chitin, or chitosan, and/or starch, or hetastarch, or Ficoll, or derivatives thereof, or naturally occurring polymers as zein, and pullulan, or derivatives thereof.

- 6. A composition according to claim 5, wherein one compound is substituted by a nucleic acid-binding agent.
- 7. A composition according to one of the claims 4 to 6, wherein the polyaliphatic alcohol is polyethylene oxide, or a derivative thereof, or polyethylene glycol (PEG), or PEG-acrylate, or polyvinyl acetate, or a derivative thereof.
- 8. A composition according to claim 7, wherein said is polyethyleneglycol has a molecular weight from 3 kDa to 20 kDa.
- 9. A composition according to one of the above claims, said composition comprising a surfactant or a derivative thereof.
- A composition according to claim 9, wherein said surfactant is polyoxyethylene sorbitan and fat acid ether (Tween-20,40,60,80).
- A composition according to one of the above claims, said composition comprising polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene co-polymer.
- 12. A composition according to claim 11, wherein said polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene co-polymer is Pluronic L-64 or Pluronic F-68, or a derivative thereof.
- 13. A composition according to one of the above claims, said composition comprising polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP).
- 14. A composition according to one of the above claims, wherein said biological material comprises polynucleotides, or vaccines (microbes, viruses) or proteins, or peptides, or derivatives thereof.
- 15. A composition according to one of the above claims, wherein said biological material comprises cytokines or monoclonal antibodies

- 16. A composition according to claim 15, wherein said cytokines comprise interferones and/or interleukines.
- 17. A composition according to claim 6, wherein said nucleic acid-binding agent is a peptide or a protein.
- 18. A composition according to claim 17, wherein said peptide are low molecular weight polylysines or polyethylenimines or derivatives thereof.
- 19. A composition according to claim 17, wherein said protein is a histone.
- A composition according to claim 5, wherein said dextran has a molecular weight from 4 kDa to 5000 kDa.
- 21. A composition according to claim 14, wherein said polynucleotide is DNA.
- 22. A composition according to claim 14, wherein said polynucleotide is RNA.
- 23. A composition according to claim 22, wherein said RNA is antisense.
- 24. A composition according to claim 7, wherein said is polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight from 1 kDa to 20 kDa.
- 25. A method for preparation of microparticles with use of a composition according to one of the above claims, wherein the concentration of water for formation of microparticles is achieved by evaporation of water from a one-phase system leading to a phase separation.
- 26. A method according to claim 25, wherein said evaporating process has a duration between 0,1 and 100 hours.
- 27. A method according to claim 25, wherein said evaporating process has a duration between 0,1 and 50 hours.

- 28. A method according to claim 25 to 27, wherein sald evaporating process is carried out at a temperature between 0° C and 100° C.
- 29. A method according to claim 25 to 27, wherein said evaporating process is carried out at a temperature between 0° C and 50° C.
- 30. A method according to one of the claims 25 to 29, wherein said evaporating process is carried out under a pressure of 0,1 to 760 mm Hg p.
- 31. A method according to one of the claims 25 to 30, wherein said evaporating process is stopped when the water concentration within the system is between 5 to 80 %.
- 32. A method according to one of the claims 25 to 30, wherein said evaporating process is stopped when the water concentration within the system is between 5 to 75 %.
- 33. A method according to one of the claims 27, 29 or 31, wherein the calcium phosphate precipitation method is used.
- 34. A method of applying a composition according to one of the above claims 1 to 33 to a cell culture.
- 35. Microparticles being formed by conducting a method according to one of the claims 25 to 34.
- 36. Microparticles according to claim 35 being composed of at least 75 % polymer molecules and 25 % or less biological material.

All00716



1/1